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**From:** Calvino, Maria Soledad [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=55D174C8F17E4B979B51E3377E521037-CALVINO, MA]  
**Sent:** 12/20/2021 7:21:21 PM  
**To:** Adam Smith [Adam.Smith@independent.co.uk]  
**Subject:** RE: The Independent: TRW MICROWAVE, INC (BUILDING 825)

Hi Adam,

Sorry for the delay on this. Here are the responses to your questions. Please let me know if there's anything else we can help you with.

Thank you and Happy Holidays!

Best,  
Soledad

**A Health and Environment page from the EPA in March (attached) put a "no" in the "Human Exposure Under Control" box – meaning "an unsafe level of contamination has been detected at the site and a reasonable expectation exists that people could be exposed". The page today has "Yes" in that box now; I was hoping you could tell me what changes were made between March 2021 and today?**

The TRW Microwave website information with Human Exposure Under Control was outdated. Prior to June 2021, the TRW Microwave website incorrectly showed that "human exposure is not under control." In 2019 EPA evaluated the implementation and performance of cleanup activities at the site, as part of a Five Year Review, to determine whether it remained protective of human health and the environment. The 2019 Review determined that it protects human health and the environment, and therefore, human exposure is under control. The TRW Microwave site incorporates the Apple leased building at 825 Stewart Drive, where a sub-slab soil vapor collection system was installed in 2014 along with a number of other remediation and investigation measures. The mitigation measures have been effective in reducing vapor intrusion and provide ongoing protectiveness to building occupants.

For more information, please refer to the EPA 2019 Five-Year Review Report that addresses the TRW Microwave site. The report is located here: <https://semspub.epa.gov/src/document/09/100018396>. Additional documents on the TRW Microwave site are located here: <https://cumulis.epa.gov/supercpad/SiteProfiles/index.cfm?fuseaction=second.docdata&id=0901181>.

**Also, under "Sitewide Ready for Anticipated Use", it said "No". The website still says "no". Could you tell me why that is? In the same row, there is also a new note that has been added between March and now, stating: *Important Note: Sitewide Ready for Anticipated Use (SWRAU) is an internal performance measure and is not a reporting of site-specific risk. The determination that a site is SWRAU is based on the information available at the time the determination is made. That determination may revert if site conditions change, or if new or additional information is discovered regarding the contamination at the site.* Could you tell me why that note was added?**

The information on the EPA website regarding Sitewide Ready for Anticipated Use, or SWRAU, is correct and reflects EPA SWRAU guidance. The added language was added to all EPA websites to provide more context to what SWRAU means. Meeting SWRAU is a prescriptive performance standard and not meant to be considered a metric for reporting site-specific risk and does not change existing EPA policies and practices for carrying out the investigation and cleanup of sites under CERCLA, which is often complex. SWRAU is achieved when the following criteria have been met:

- (1) All cleanup goals in the Record(s) of Decision or other remedy decision document(s) have been achieved for any media that may affect current and reasonably anticipated future land uses of the site, so there are no unacceptable risks; and
- (2) All institutional or other controls required in the Record(s) of Decision or other remedy decision document(s) have been put in place.

For the TRW Microwave site, the 1991 Record of Decision cleanup goal to meet stringent residential drinking water standards will take many decades to achieve, which is documented in the Record of Decision. While the Record of Decision cleanup goals have not yet been met, EPA still works to ensure that there are no known unacceptable risks to human health or the environment. For instance, groundwater underneath the TRW Microwave site is not considered a drinking water source, and there are institutional controls (land-use restrictions) in-place prohibiting groundwater from being used as potable water. Additionally, remediation is ongoing at the site and vapor intrusion mitigation systems are in place to further prevent unacceptable exposures to contaminants of concern.

**Soledad Calvino**

Press Officer | Office of Public Affairs

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**From:** Adam Smith <Adam.Smith@independent.co.uk>

**Sent:** Monday, December 6, 2021 11:10 AM

**To:** Calvino, Maria Soledad <Calvino.Maria@epa.gov>

**Subject:** RE: The Independent: TRW MICROWAVE, INC (BUILDING 825)

Hey Soledad, that's very helpful, thank you!

All the best,

Adam Smith

Science and Technology reporter, The Independent

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**From:** Calvino, Maria Soledad <[Calvino.Maria@epa.gov](mailto:Calvino.Maria@epa.gov)>

**Sent:** Monday, December 6, 2021 6:03:31 PM

**To:** Adam Smith <[adam.smith@independent.co.uk](mailto:adam.smith@independent.co.uk)>

**Subject:** RE: The Independent: TRW MICROWAVE, INC (BUILDING 825)

**External Sender**

Hi Adam,

Margot has taken a new position with our HQ offices in Washington D.C., so I'm covering the Northern California beat for now. I've been in touch with the TRW Microwave site team and they are working on your inquiry. We are hoping to have a response for you next week. Does that work for you?

Thank you,

**Soledad Calvino**

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**From:** Adam Smith <[adam.smith@independent.co.uk](mailto:adam.smith@independent.co.uk)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 2, 2021 7:27 AM  
**To:** PerezSullivan, Margot <[PerezSullivan.Margot@epa.gov](mailto:PerezSullivan.Margot@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** The Independent: TRW MICROWAVE, INC (BUILDING 825)

Hey Margot

Hope you're well! I'm a science and technology reporter for The Independent, and was hoping you could help me with something.

I'm looking at the TRW Microwave site that I believe Apple rents, and just wanted to see if I could get some more information about its status.

A Health and Environment page from the EPA in March (attached) put a "no" in the "Human Exposure Under Control" box – meaning "an unsafe level of contamination has been detected at the site and a reasonable expectation exists that people could be exposed".

The [page today](#) has "Yes" in that box now; I was hoping you could tell me what changes were made between March 2021 and today?

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In the same row, there is also a new note that has been added between March and now, stating:  
*Important Note: Sitewide Ready for Anticipated Use (SWRAU) is an internal performance measure and is not a reporting of site-specific risk. The determination that a site is SWRAU is based on the information available at the time the determination is made. That determination may revert if site conditions change, or if new or additional information is discovered regarding the contamination at the site.*

Could you tell me why that note was added?

Thanks very much!

All the best,

Adam Smith  
Science and Technology reporter, The Independent

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